

From: ["Washburn, Ben" </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP \(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT\)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=FDA03CBA30C542059E0AF4208DAD96DA-WASHBURN, BEN>](mailto:Ben.Washburn@EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=FDA03CBA30C542059E0AF4208DAD96DA-WASHBURN, BEN)
To:
CC:
Date: 7/18/2014 2:20:04 PM
Subject: OPA Daily Digest 7/18/14

OPA Daily Digest for 7/18/14

Congressional Inquiries:

Sen. Claire McCaskill (Mo.); **Sen. Roy Blunt** (Mo.); **Rep. William Lacy Clay** (Mo.); **Rep. Ann Wagner** (Mo.) – Letter – 7/18/14: West Lake Landfill. Due: 8/1/14. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 (open)

State Government Inquiries:

None

Press Inquiries:

Wall Street Journal – John Emshwiller – 7/9/14: Questions about isolation barrier project at West Lake Landfill in Bridgeton, Mo. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (open)

Kansas Farmer – P.J. Griekspoor – 7/18/14: Confirmed conducting interview with headquarters official regarding the waters of the U.S. proposal. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557 (closed)

Nebraska Farmer – Don McCabe – 7/18/14: Pitched the regional administrator's guest column about grain elevator regulations. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557 (closed)

KRES-FM, Moberly, Mo. - Kyle Hill – 7/18/14: Conducted interview with the regional administrator about the waters of the U.S. proposal and wood stove regulations. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557 (closed)

Environmental Stories:

Kansas Public Radio - Ads Praise Gov Brownback for Fighting EPA - 7/17/14 - A Washington-area group with ties to veteran Republican operatives is spending at least \$246,000 on radio and television advertisements in Kansas praising Governor Sam Brownback in the final weeks before the state's primary election.

<http://www.kansaspublicradio.org/news/9005-groups-ads-praise-brownback-for-coal-fired-power-plant>

Associated Press - Group's ads praise Kansas governor over coal plant - 7/17/14 - A Washington-area group with ties to veteran Republican operatives is spending at least \$246,000 on radio and television advertisements in Kansas markets praising conservative GOP Gov. Sam Brownback ahead of the state's primary election, records showed Thursday.

<http://m.sfgate.com/business/energy/article/Group-s-ads-praise-Kansas-governor-over-coal-plant-5628657.php>

High Plains Journal (Hays, Kan.) - Brownback pushes back on "federal overreach" - 7/18/14 - Walking among the implements and new services on display at the 3i Show, Kansas Governor Sam Brownback had the chance to visit with farmers and ranchers from across the state. The topics of interest of no surprise to him or others involved in Kansas agriculture: the lesser prairie-chicken and water. http://www.hpj.com/archives/2014/jul14/jul21/0715Brownback3i_hmrt.cfm?t=Brownback-pushes-back-on-

Drovers CattleNetwork - Kansas Ag Secretary: Time to send a clear message to EPA - 7/17/14 - Water in Kansas is a precious resource. Kansans are keenly aware of the importance of protecting the soil, water, air and other natural resources found in our great state. <http://www.cattlenetwork.com/cattle-news/latest/Time-to-send-a-clear-message-to-EPA-267557961.html>

The News-Leader, Springfield, Mo. - City to redo parking lots with focus on sustainability - 7/17/14 - Two parking lots at the City Government Plaza will be under construction beginning in mid-August as part of a grant-funded project that aims to demonstrate ways of managing stormwater that reduce the amount of runoff and pollution that reach streams. <http://www.news-leader.com/story/news/local/ozarks/2014/07/17/city-redo-parking-lots-focus-sustainability/12779187/>

Sierra Club (news release) - Call the EPA Regional Office: It's time to act! - 7/14/14 - Rather than following the typical procedures, Sunflower recently submitted a rare request to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment to extend their construction permit without having to come into compliance with current environmental regulations. It is now clearer than ever that the time has come for the EPA to act. http://action.sierraclub.org/site/PageServer?pagename=call_KS_EPAAintervention

AgriNews - Turkey River project seeks to assist farmer in implementing nutrient reduction practices - 7/17/14 - With a goal to assist farmers in implementing best management practices to reduce nitrogen and phosphorus delivery to streams, the Central Turkey River Nutrient Reduction Demonstration Project held its kickoff event at Northeast Iowa Community College. http://www.agrinews.com/news/iowa_news/turkey-river-project-seeks-to-assist-farmer-in-implementing-nutrient/article_a3e831c6-34bf-558a-8e5f-d905bdef0c98.html

News Leader, Springfield, Mo. - Missouri's largest solar farm is producing power - 7/17/14 - A solar farm in Greene County — the largest in the state of Missouri — is now contributing energy to City Utilities' transmission grid. City Utilities spokesman Joel Alexander said in an email this week that the approximately 40-acre project northeast of Springfield began producing power on June 26. <http://www.news-leader.com/story/news/local/ozarks/2014/07/18/missouris-largest-solar-farm-producing-power/12844029/>

Wichita Eagle - Wichita's water challenges, proposed sales tax discussed at forum - 7/17/14 - City officials on Thursday discussed a proposed sales tax that would largely fund a new \$250 million water source. The discussion came at a forum hosted by the Kansas Policy Institute, a conservative Wichita nonprofit organization. <http://www.kansas.com/2014/07/17/3557485/officials-discuss-wichitas-water.html>

Nebraska Radio Network - Nebraska Farm Bureau warns Congress of EPA expansion - 7/17/14 - Nebraska Farm Bureau members have wrapped up their annual trek to Washington, after lobbying against a proposed expansion of the power of the Environmental Protection Agency. Todd Reed of Lincoln co-owns a custom farming operation south of Greenwood. He worries a change in definition could allow the EPA to regulate waterways on farms. <http://nebraskaradionetwork.com/2014/07/17/nebraska-farm-bureau-warns-congress-of-epa-expansion/>

KSMU Ozarks Public Radio - City Parking Lots to be Redesigned to Reduce Stormwater Runoff (audio) - 7/17/17 - The public and employee parking lots near the Busch Municipal Building in Springfield are getting a makeover. But the changes won't just improve traffic flow. They'll also help the environment. <http://ksmu.org/post/city-parking-lots-be-redesigned-reduce-stormwater-runoff>

New York Times - Without Much Straining, Minnesota Reins In Its Utilities' Carbon Emissions - 7/17/14 - When city leaders and state legislators agreed last year to fund roughly half the \$1 billion cost of a new stadium for the Minnesota Vikings, they attached the usual strings for such projects: It had to be architecturally iconic, employ steel made from Minnesota iron ore and offer at least a few cheap seats. It also had to be energy efficient, from lighting to building materials to the sources of its power. <http://www.nytimes.com/2014/07/18/us/politics/without-much-straining-minnesota-reins-in-its-utilities-carbon-emissions.html>

Daily Caller - Watchdog: EPA IG Report Provides Cover For 'Transparency Abuses' - 7/18/14 - A recent EPA IG report claimed there was "no indications of bias" in the

agency's Freedom of Information Act to grant or deny fee waiver requests to conservative groups. But the conservative watchdog group Energy & Environment Legal Institute (EELI) said that the EPA IG report was designed to avoid examining the actual evidence of EPA wrongdoing. <http://dailycaller.com/2014/07/18/watchdog-epa-ig-report-provides-cover-for-transparency-abuses/>

Washington Times - EPA pulls back from plan to garnish paychecks - 7/16/14 - The Environmental Protection Agency bowed to fierce criticism Wednesday and announced that it had hit the breaks on a fast-tracked plan to collect fines by garnishing paychecks of accused polluters. <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2014/jul/16/epa-withdraws-plan-garnish-wages/>

Washington Post - The EPA's carbon plan asks the least from states that pollute the most (blog) - 7/16/14 - The EPA's Clean Power Plan is undoubtedly one of the biggest regulatory events in decades. The proposed rule under the Clean Air Act is the centerpiece of the Obama Administration's strategy to address climate change, and its champions laud it as an important step in combating climate change and a boon to public health, while its detractors say it represents a war on coal and an abuse of executive power. <http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/wonkblog/wp/2014/07/16/the-epas-carbon-plan-asks-the-least-from-states-that-pollute-the-most/>

The Hill - GOP Senators probe lost EPA emails - 7/17/14 - A group of Republican senators believe the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) broke the law when it lost emails that lawmakers are seeking in an investigation, and they're asking the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) to help their inquiry. <http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/212596-gop-senators-probe-lost-epa-emails>

The Hill - House Republicans take aim at EPA climate rules - 7/15/14 - House appropriators on Tuesday approved a \$30 billion spending bill designed to block a host of looming Environmental Protection Agency regulations viewed by the GOP as exceeding the agency's authority. <http://thehill.com/regulation/212308-panel-advances-spending-bill-that-would-block-epa-regs>

The Hill - Senators join in EPA 'secret science' charge - 7/17/14 - Eight GOP senators have introduced a bill to block the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) from using undisclosed scientific studies to justify its regulations, joining House Republicans in the "secret science" accusation. <http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/212550-senators-join-in-epa-secret-science-charge>

Think Progress - Innovators In Norway Use Power Plant Carbon Pollution To Grow Fish Food - 7/18/14 - In a new take on the concept of carbon capture, engineers in Norway are now trying to harness the carbon dioxide emitted from power plants and use it to grow fish food. <http://thinkprogress.org/climate/2014/07/18/3461444/norway-carbon-dioxide-fish-food/>

Brownfield Ag News - AFBF sends EPA "counter point" to Congress - 7/18/14 - The American Farm Bureau Federation is countering statements by an EPA official on the proposed water rule of the Clean Water Act. Farm Bureau Congressional Relations Director Mary Kay Thatcher tells Brownfield Ag News the AFBF has given that document to members of Congress, "We put out a lengthy paper, sort of doing a point-counter-point on 'they say this' but here's the exact language out of the 350 page rule that we think proves exactly the opposite. So, we have great concern about this." <http://brownfieldagnews.com/2014/07/18/afbf-sends-epa-counter-point-to-congress/>

Brownfield Ag News - Iowa's ag secretary on RFS delay and EPA's water rule (audio) - 7/18/14 - At the International Symposium of Beef Animal Welfare in Ames, Iowa, we asked Iowa secretary of agriculture Bill Northey for his thoughts on the delay in the announcement of the Renewable Fuels Standard volumes and the debate over the EPA's plan to extend its jurisdiction over "Waters of the U.S." <http://brownfieldagnews.com/2014/07/18/iowas-ag-secretary-on-rfs-delay-and-epas-water-rule/>

Greenwire - Early movers lament EPA's use of 2012 as base year - 7/17/14 - U.S. EPA's top official for air quality issues said today that the agency is getting pushback on its decision to use data from 2012 to set state carbon intensity targets under an existing power plant proposal for carbon dioxide. <http://www.eenews.net/greenwire/stories/1060003066/>

Greenwire - Farm Bureau targets EPA's 'intensive public relations campaign' - 7/16/14 - With fierce battles over an Obama administration water proposal underway in Congress, a staunch opponent of the rule sent key lawmakers a point-by-point analysis of U.S. EPA's explanation of the proposal. The American Farm Bureau Federation's 16-page analysis targets a blog post by Nancy Stoner, EPA's acting water administrator. <http://www.eenews.net/greenwire/stories/1060003064/>

Chemical & Engineering News - EPA Eyes Ban On Greenhouse Gas - 7/18/14 - Citing the impact of hydrofluorocarbons on climate change, the Environmental Protection Agency is proposing to phase out the use of various heat-trapping HFCs in many industrial and consumer products by 2021. <http://cen.acs.org/articles/92/i29/EPA-Eyes-Ban-Greenhouse-Gas.html>

EcoWatch - Obama Plan Helps Communities Prepare for Extreme Weather Brought on by Climate Change - 7/18/14 - in the age of climate change, there will be a next time. There will be more intense storms in my hometown of New York, and more extreme flooding, heat waves and drought in communities around the nation. There will also be many ways to make our towns and cities more resilient in the face of these changes. <http://ecowatch.com/2014/07/18/obama-plan-communities-extreme-weather-climate-change/>

Christian Science Monitor - Can nuclear power rebrand itself as environment-friendly? - 7/18/14 - The nuclear industry is lining up heavy hitters from past administrations to convince Congress and the public that nuclear power represents a solution to climate change. But safety fears post-Fukushima, along with concerns about high building costs and the lack of permanent storage for spent fuel rods, remain big hurdles. <http://www.csmonitor.com/Environment/Energy-Voices/2014/0718/Can-nuclear-power-rebrand-itself-as-environment-friendly>

Press Releases:

Link to all R7 press releases: <http://go.usa.gov/Qx5>

EPA presenta nueva gráfica para ayudar a consumidores a tomar decisiones informadas sobre los repelentes de insectos – 7/18/14 – Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364

EPA otorga \$2.1 millones para revitalizar las aguas urbanas – 7/18/14 – Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364

Fact Sheets:

Link to all R7 fact sheets: <http://www.epa.gov/region7/factsheets>

None

Upcoming Administrator/RA Events:

* New additions noted with an asterisk

7/21/14 – Civil Rights Event, Washington, D.C. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

7/22/14 – Budget Forum, Washington, D.C. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

7/23/14 – Senior Leadership Retreat for Regional Administrators, Washington, D.C. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

7/24/14 – National Tribal Operations Committee Meeting, Washington DC. Contact: Lynn Slugantz, 7883

7/28/14 – Tribal Visit, Kickapoo Tribe, Horton, Kan. Contact: Lynn Slugantz, 7883

7/29/14 – Tribal Visit, Winnebago Tribe, Winnebago, Neb., Contact: Lynn Slugantz, 7883

7/29-30/14 – Regional Tribal Operations Committee Meeting, Niobrara, Neb. Contact: Lynn Slugantz, 7883

7/31/14 – Missouri Environmental & Energy Conference at the Lake, Osage Beach, Mo. Contact: David Cozad, 7587

8/6/14 - St. Louis Regional Chamber of Commerce Meeting, St. Louis, Mo. Contact: David Bryan, 7433

8/11/14 – Clean Power Plan Forum with Utility Executives, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Mary Peterson, 7882

***8/13/14** – Iowa Association of Business & Industry, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Dave Bryan, 7433

8/20/14 – Tribal Consultation Training, Regional Office. Contact: Heather Hamilton, 7039

DRA:

7/21/14 – Civil Rights Event, Washington, DC. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

7/22/14 – Budget Forum, Washington, D.C. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

7/23-7/24/14 Executive Management Council Meeting, Washington, DC Contact: Dana Peters, 7444

8/20/14 – Tribal Consultation Training, Regional Office. Contact: Heather Hamilton, 7039

RA/Immediate Office

None

Other Events

AWMD

7/22/2014 – Participating in the Iowa Department of Natural Resources 111(d) kick off meeting, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Becky Weber, 7487.

CNSL

None

ECO/EJ

None

ENSV

None

PLMG

None

RA/OPA

7/21/14 – Attend West Lake Landfill Community Advisory Group meeting in Bridgeton, Mo. Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364

9/29-30/14 - Healthy Schools Outreach, Missouri School Plant Managers' Association Conference, Four Seasons, Lake of the Ozarks, Mo. Contact: Kathleen Fenton, 7874 and Harry Diesel, 7382

SUPR

None

WWPD

8/18-21/14 – Purdue Pesticide Program Certification and Training Workshop, Indianapolis, Ind. Contact: Douglas Jones, 7592